

SELF HELPS for the NEW SOLDIER

By a United States Army Officer

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THE COMPANY HOME.

The new soldier has been instructed as a member of a squad, but the company is the unit with which he will be permanently identified. He may be shifted from squad to squad as the strength of the company varies, but he will in all probability continue to be a member of the same company. Owing to the loose and tentative organization of the squad—that is, so far as individual members are concerned—real esprit de corps does not begin with the squad but with the company. Even when in camp and members of the same squad are tentmates, a change in the formation of the company may occur at any time which would throw the new soldier into a different squad.

The company is different. It is a fixed and continuous thing—a going concern, so to speak. It is the new soldier's military home, even on the march; or, to put it another way, it is his military class in the regiment, which corresponds to his military college. Toward other regiments he feels as he would toward a rival college.

The present regiment in the American army consists of 15 companies. These include 12 infantry companies, authorized to have 100 men and three officers at peace strength, and 150 men and three officers at war strength. The three additional companies which go to make up the 15 are headquarters, supply and machine gun companies.

The captain is the commander of the company. There are two subordinate commissioned officers—the first and second lieutenant. These command platoons, and, as need arises, in order of rank take command of the company.

Although the war department is considering the organization of companies of 250 men, on the French plan, under the Hays bill the company at peace strength is constituted as follows: One captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, one first sergeant, one mess sergeant, one supply sergeant, six sergeants, 11 corporals, two cooks, two buglers, one mechanic, 19 privates of the first class, and 56 privates of the second class—total, 103. For war strength there are added two sergeants, six corporals, one cook, one mechanic, nine privates (first class), and 31 privates (second class)—total, 153 men and officers.

The company, then, is divided into two, three or four platoons, each consisting of not less than two nor more than four squads. In other words, at full war strength, there would be 16 squads, or 128 men, in the four platoons. The remainder besides the officers has assigned positions such as guides and file closers.

The sergeants, of whom there may be 11 at war strength, will be found to be of more importance in the company than the corporal, who has no authority except over the men of his immediate squad. Sergeants are not only in charge of two squads when so grouped, but may be placed in command of a platoon. In a company of four platoons, two platoons at least must be commanded by sergeants. The new soldier will find that the sergeant is the normal medium between the non-commissioned man and the officer, and that sergeants are the supervisors of all company affairs which relate exclusively to enlisted men.

FORMING THE COMPANY.

The company in line is formed in double rank. The tallest men are placed on the right and the others are arranged, so far as it is practicable, in order of height. The company is formed at the sounding of the "assembly" on the bugle. The first sergeant takes position six paces in front of where the center of the company is to be. The first sergeant, next in command to the second lieutenant, is the only noncommissioned officer who wears a saber. As he takes position, he draws his saber and commands, "FALL IN."

The right guide of the company, who is usually a senior sergeant, thereupon places himself on the spot where the right of the company is to rest. This is abreast of the center of the company, which is itself six paces back from the point where the first sergeant has taken position. The squads then form in their proper places to the left, successively, of the right guide. Squads, like individuals, are graduated in height. The falling in is superintended by the other sergeants, who then take their posts.

Following the "report," or roll call, and "inspection arms," conducted by the first sergeant, if the company has been formed by squads, the first sergeant salutes the captain and reports, "Sir, all present or accounted for," or gives the name of the unauthorized absentees, and, without command, takes his post.

If the company has not been formed by squads, the first sergeant effects the division by the command, "COUNT OFF." At this, the squads successively count off as in the school of the squad. But when by this process the position of No. 4 in the front rank of a squad is established, the corporal assumes it, exchanging whatever man it is necessary to displace.

The captain, in advance of receiving the report of the first sergeant, places himself 12 paces in front of the center of the company. He returns the salute of the first sergeant, and then draws his saber. The lieutenants, taking their posts behind the company, to the rear of the right and left guides, when the first sergeant has reported, draw their sabers with the captain.

The alignments of the company are executed as prescribed in the school of the squad. The guide, however, is established instead of being the flank file. The rear-rank man of the flank file keeps his head and eyes to the front and covers his file leader.

The company executes the "halt, rests, facings, steps and marchings, manual of arms, loadings and firings, takes intervals and distances and assemblies, increases and diminishes intervals, resumes attention, obliques, resumes the direct march and preserves alignments," as set forth in the school of the soldier and the school of the squad. The difference is that the word "company" is substituted in commands for "squad."

The practical value of the instruction and training which the new soldier receives in the school of the squad now begins to dawn upon him.

THE COMPANY AND "SQUADS RIGHT."

As soon as the company has formed and starts to march in close-order drill, the new soldier will find himself putting into application more and more of what he has learned in squad drill. This will be intelligent application, too, for he will now be able to see what it is all about. Previously, it was necessary for him to learn certain movements in the squad as a unit, for it would be impossible to explain to the company as a whole the details of a company movement which is based upon a collective squad movement, unless the squad movement itself were first comprehended. The parts of the machine must be perfected separately, and then, as he has before observed, be fitted together.

If the company is marching in line, and hence forward on a company front, probably the first command which the captain would give is, "Squads right (left) MARCH!" The purpose of this command would be twofold. In the first place, it would change the direction of the march by diverting it squarely off to the right. In the second place, it would form the company into a column of squads—that is, four men abreast, in place of the company line.

The movement itself is executed precisely as in "squad right (left)," as already described in the school of the squad. The new soldier would do well to return and refresh his recollections of the details.

As a practical illustration of what has taken place following the command "squads right," imagine that the company is marching on an armory drill floor. It is in line—that is company front—and is advancing up the left side of the hall. As it approaches the wall at the end of the drill floor, it is necessary for the captain to change the direction of the company—otherwise, the men would be compelled to march head on into the wall. He wishes to send them along the end of the room, and in this he now has but one choice of direction—to the right. So he gives the command, "Squads right," and the line immediately swings into a column of squads, moving straight off to the right.

Assume that, while in column of squads and half way across the end of the drill hall, the captain desires to return to the company front again, either for the purpose of halting or in order to advance across the drill floor in the direction opposite to that originally described. He would give the command, "Squads right," once more, and this would execute the movement as required.

Being in line, at a halt, if the captain wishes to throw the company into column of squads, he gives the command, "Squads right, MARCH; company, HALT!" This movement is executed in the same way as with an individual squad in line.

By this time—if not before—the new soldier will have observed that squads in the company are as a row of state-room doors on a steamboat. The difference is that they swing as if moved with a single lever. At one time they stand open at right angles, thereby forming a column of squads, and at another time they are closed and form the line, or company front. And the importance of the fixed pivot (on which "squads right (left)" is always executed) is to insure that the squads will fit as exactly when they swing in and out as the hypothetical row of doors.



ROAD BUILDING

BENEFITS OF CONCRETE ROAD

Enables Farmer to Haul Two Loads at One Trip, Instead of One Load at Two Trips.

Reduced to simple terms, a concrete road helps the farmer haul two loads at one trip instead of one load at two trips; or, it doubles the size of the load and cuts in two the tractive power necessary to transport farm produce. With less capital tied up in horses there is more cash to put into equipment to produce more cash. The concrete road reduces the strain on horses and lengthens their lives. It reduces wear on wagons and harness. Where motortrucks are used it lessens tire and fuel expense. It puts the farmer in a state of preparedness to reach markets quickly when prices are best, and he can take his profits and get home with more cash than he could by slow hauling on a bad road. It adds to the acreage value of a farm because it increases its earning possibilities. A concrete road makes all of these advantages permanent, bringing its toll of profit to the farmer daily in the form of time, money and effort saved.

METHOD OF PAVING REPAIRS

Cleveland Contractor Reduces Gang by Use of Pneumatic Chisel—Gasoline for Power.

A paving contractor of Cleveland, O., has reduced his repair gang to two men and a foreman for such work as is shown in the illustration, where a brick pavement is to be patched. The city is said to have a larger mileage of brick than any like area in the world, and economical methods of repair are therefore important. This contractor first has all the old paving removed with pick and sledge, except along the edge of the patch. There the old bricks are loosened for removal, with a pneumatic chisel. This cuts out the old mortar and leaves a



Repairing Brick Pavement.

clean, sound "key" for the new pavement to meet as it is laid. The sound bricks taken up are also cleaned by the pneumatic tool and relaid, which is another economy. Power for the tools is furnished by a portable outfit consisting of a gasoline engine and an air compressor mounted as a unit upon a truck that can be moved along the pavement by hand.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

HIGHWAY WORK IN OKLAHOMA

County, State and Government Co-Operating on Building Road Through Important Towns.

Oklahoma has made a new departure in convict road work. Pottawatomie county, the state, and the United States office of public roads and rural engineering are co-operating on building a road, 35 miles long, which passes through the important towns of the county. The county is furnishing the necessary funds and a portion of the equipment; the state, the remainder of the equipment and 50 prisoners and 4 employees.

LIGHT DRAG NOW PREFERRED

Things Can Be Done With It That Cannot Be Done With Heavy One—Weight Can Be Added.

Build a light drag. One can do things with a light drag that he cannot do with a heavy one. And then one can weight a light drag to make it heavy. But how can one lighten a heavy drag? Do not build the drag too long; especially if your roadway is rather narrow or runs between high banks.

The KITCHEN CABINET

Our greatest glory consists not in never failing, but in rising every time we fall.

HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS.

Desserts for children should be planned with care and may be both delicious and appetizing, as well as easy of digestion. Figs and prunes are both highly nutritious and good for children, but they tire of them, served in two or three ways.

As candy is so liked by the little people, the following suggestion may be used to satisfy that longing without feeling that the child is being injured. Take the stones from soaked prunes and add an equal quantity of figs, put them through the meat chopper, and use the water in which the prunes were soaked to boil with sugar, until a heavy syrup that will make a soft ball in water, is formed, remove from the heat and stir until creamy, add the chopped fruit, make into small balls, roll in powdered sugar, and set away to harden.

Home-Made Soda Water.—Take two pounds of sugar, two ounces of tartaric acid, three pints of water, and a half-ounce of the essence of wintergreen, the whites of two eggs. Mix the sugar and tartaric acid together with the water, let it boil slowly for two minutes, then set aside to cool. When cool, stir in the wintergreen essence and the beaten whites of the eggs. Stir all together, put into jars and keep in the ice chest. When required for use put two tablespoonfuls of the syrup in a glass, fill with cold water, and stir in a quarter of a teaspoonful of soda.

Buttermilk Pop.—Heat a quart of buttermilk in a double boiler, when boiling stir in two tablespoonfuls of flour that has been rubbed smooth in a little cold milk. Stir and cook until the flour is thoroughly cooked and serve hot.

Frozen beef tea is a novelty which will appeal to the invalid during the hot weather. To prepare the beef juice take a thick piece of steak and broil it quickly in a hot pan, then score it and put it into a vegetable press to extract all the juice. This juice will, with a pinch of salt, be of much finer flavor than that which is cooked a longer time. Serve either hot or cold.

JACK CRAWFORD.

The way they make cherry pie in India may be interesting to us, and worth trying. Line a deep pie plate with pastry and put into it a quart of stoned cherries, fill the dish with molasses and sprinkle over the top four tablespoonfuls of flour, cover with pastry and bake in a moderate oven 30 minutes. Then brush over with beaten egg, sprinkle with sugar, and return to the oven to brown.

Cherry Roly-Poly.—Roll out very thin a rich pie paste, heap on two cupfuls of drained cherries, that have been pitted. Roll up and place in a deep saucepan. Add a cupful of sugar, a cupful of boiling water, two tablespoonfuls of butter, and bake one hour in a moderate oven. If there is not sufficient juice to serve as sauce, cream may be used if desired.

Cherry Sponge.—Put a pound and a half of cherries into a saucepan, a cupful of cold water, two cupfuls of sugar and cook gently until all the juice is extracted. Strain, add two heaping tablespoonfuls of powdered gelatin with a half cupful of boiling water and a teaspoonful of almond extract. When nearly cold, add the stiffly beaten whites of two eggs. Pour into a wet mold and turn out firm. Decorate around the base with ripe stoned cherries.

Cherry Cake.—Cream half a cupful of shortening, add one-half cupful of sugar, a little grated nutmeg, four well-beaten eggs, two cupfuls of flour, sifted with one teaspoonful of baking powder, a teaspoonful of vanilla and a half cupful of milk, mix well, and add a half cupful of preserved cherries cut in small pieces. Pour the mixture into long tins and bake until nicely brown.

Cherries are an addition to any fruit salad, and as stewed sauce to be served with cookies; make a most delicious dessert.

Sambal, Malay Chutney.—Peel and quarter three quinces not wholly ripe, add one onion, pepper, salt and a green chili pepper, put all through the meat grinder and serve with a roast.

Nellie Maxwell

SOLD SHOTGUN FOR TEN DOLLARS

And Filed on Western Canada Land. Now Worth \$50,000.

Lawrence Bros. of Vera, Saskatchewan, are looked upon as being amongst the most progressive farmers in Western Canada. They have had their "ups-and-downs," and know what it is to be in tight pinches. They persevered, and are now in an excellent financial position. Their story is an interesting one. Coming in from the states they traveled overland from Calgary across the Battle river, the Red Deer river, through the Eagle Hills and on to Battleford. On the way their horses were stolen, but this did not dishearten them. They had some money, with which they bought more horses, and some provisions. When they reached Battleford they had only money enough to pay their ferrage over the Saskatchewan river, and this they had to borrow. It was in 1906 that they filed on homesteads, having to sell a shotgun for ten dollars in order to get sufficient money to do so. Frank Lawrence says:

"Since that time we have acquired altogether a section and a half of land, in addition to renting another three-quarters of a section. If we had to sell out now we could probably realize about \$50,000, and have made all this since we came here. We get crops in this district of from 30 to 35 bushels of wheat to the acre and oats from 40 to 80 bushels to the acre. Stock here pays well. We have 1,700 sheep, 70 cattle and 60 horses, of which a number are registered Clydes."

Similar successes might be given of the experiences of hundreds of farmers throughout Western Canada, who have done comparatively as well. Why should they not dress well, live well, have comfortable homes, with all modern equipments, electric light, steam heat, pure ventilation, and automobiles. Speaking of automobiles it will be a revelation to the reader to learn that during the first half of 1917, 16,000 automobile licenses were issued in Alberta, twice as many as in the whole of 1916. In Saskatchewan, 21,000 licenses were issued up to the first of May, 1917. In its monthly bulletin for June the Canadian Bank of Commerce makes special reference to this phase and to the general prosperity of the West in the following:

"Generally speaking the western farmer is, in many respects, in a much better position than hitherto to increase his production. Two years of high prices for his products have enabled him, even with a normal crop, to liquidate a substantial proportion of his liabilities and at the same time to buy improved farm machinery. His prosperity is reflected in the demand for building materials, motor cars and other equipment. It is no doubt true that some extravagance is evidenced by the astonishing demand for motor cars, but it must be remembered that many of these cars will make for efficiency on the farm and economize both time and labor."—Advertisement.

The Trouble.

Vicar's Daughter—I'm sorry you don't like the vicar's sermons William. What is the matter with them? Are they too long?

William—Yes, miss. You curate, 'e says, "In conclusion," and 'e do conclude. But 'e vicar says, "Lastly," and 'e do last.

Those Dear Girls.

Edith—Josephine sings a lot when Mr. Spooner is calling on her.

Muriel—Trying to test his love, I suppose.

Following Precedent.

"Drowning men catch at straws." "So do thirsty ones."—Baltimore American.

A GUARANTEED REMEDY FOR HAY FEVER--ASTHMA

YOUR MONEY WILL BE REFUNDED BY YOUR DRUGGIST WITHOUT ANY QUESTION IF THIS REMEDY DOES NOT BENEFIT EVERY CASE OF ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, ALLERGIC AND ALLERGENIC SYMPTOMS ACCOMPANYING HAY FEVER. NO MATTER HOW VICIOUS THE ATTACKS OF OBSTINATE COUGHS.

DR. R. SCHIFFMANN'S ASTHMADOR

AND ASTHMADOR CIGARETTES positively give INSTANT RELIEF in every case and has permanently cured thousands who had been considered incurable, after having tried every other means of relief in vain. Asthmatics should avail themselves of this guarantee offer through their own druggist. Buy a 50-cent package and present this announcement to your druggist. You will be the sole judge as to whether you are benefited and the druggist will give you back your money if you are not. We do not know of any fairer proposition which we would make.

R. Schiffmann Co., Proprietors, St. Paul, Minn.

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